

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on October 20, 2006. Claims 18, 20, 21, 24, 26, 31 and 34 have been amended, and claims 18-34 remain in the present application. In view of the foregoing amendments, as well as the following remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in complete condition for allowance and requests reconsideration of the application in this regard.

Applicant has amended the Specification and claims substantially as suggested by Examiner and respectfully requests that the objections to the disclosure and claims be withdrawn.

Claims 18-20, 22-23 and 27-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Ramesh et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,586,925. While Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections, Applicant has amended independent claim 18 to more sharply define the claimed invention over the prior art of record and respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn.

In particular, Applicant has amended independent claim 18 to recite that the plate on the side of the tester and the plate on the side of the handler are lockable relative to each other in a plurality of different positions. Support for this amendment is located at Page 3, line 26 through Page 5, line 14 of Applicant's disclosure, for example, and in the figures.

In contrast, Ramesh et al. is directed to a universal docking system having a handler plate (2, 10) on the side of the handler and a test head plate (3, 12) on the side of the tester. The handler plate (2, 10) has adjustment slot guides (41) and side adjustment hole locations (43) that allow the position of the handler plate to be shifted on the device handler (see Fig. 2d and Col. 8, lines 12-22).

However, in the universal docking system of Ramesh et al. the handler plate (2, 10) and the test head plate (3, 12) are always lockable in the same position relative to each other as clearly shown in Figs. 4-6. In other words, the handler plate (2, 10) and test head plate (3, 12) of the Ramesh et al. universal docking system are not lockable relative to each other in a plurality of different positions as now claimed by Applicant in amended independent claim 18. Rather, the relative position of the two plates in the Ramesh et al. universal docking system is always the same in the locked position.

Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that Ramesh et al. taken alone, or in combination with the other prior art of record, fails to teach or suggest the combination of elements recited in amended independent claim 18 and the rejection of that claim should be withdrawn.

Moreover, as claims 19-34 depend from allowable independent claim 18, and further as each of these claims recites a combination of elements not taught or

suggested by the prior art of record, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are allowable as well.

Request for Continued Examination

Applicant submits herewith a Request for Continued Examination so that the present After Final Amendment will be entered and considered by Examiner.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing response including the amendments and remarks, this application is submitted to be in complete condition for allowance and early notice to this affect is earnestly solicited. If there is any issue that remains which may be resolved by telephone conference, Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned in order to resolve the same and expedite the allowance of this application.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e), Applicant has submitted herewith the \$790.00 fee for the Request for Continued Examination via electronically. Also, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(3), Applicant has submitted herewith the \$1,020.00 fee for the three (3) months extension of time via electronically. If any additional fees are necessary to complete this communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment or fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3000.

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Respectfully submitted,

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